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B O R O U G H O F Y E O V I L .

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL
OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1943.

Health Department,
Preston Road,
Yeovil.
August 1944.

TO:
THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE:


Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1943. This report is again abridged in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health.

In spite of war conditions the town has had a healthy year, apart from the epidemic of Measles and an outbreak of Influenza at the end of the year.

The birth rate has again risen and is the highest since 1921. The death rate is down to the low rate of 8.9.

I am, Sirs,
Your obedient servant,
Mary E. Hague.



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BOROUGH OF YE OVIL.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1943.

Area. 2,256 acres.
 Rainfall. 34.79 inches. Rainy days. 176.
 Population. 21,710 (Registrar General's Estimate).

SUMMARY VITAL STATISTICS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Live Births.			
Legitimate -	193	206	399
Illegitimate -	16	13	<u>29</u>
			428 ====
Stillbirths.	11		
Birth rate per 1000	19.7		
Illegitimate Births.	6.7%		
Deaths.	Males. 102	Females. 92	Total. 194
Crude Death rate.	8.9		
Infantile Mortality.	39.7		

(Infantile Mortality rate for year 1943 for England and Wales - 49)

Phthisis Death Rate. .2

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth - 3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles.	449
German Measles.	Nil
Pneumonia.	7
Diphtheria.	1
Erysipelas.	4
Scarlet Fever.	10
Puerperal Pyrexia.	10
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Whooping Cough	30
Poliomyelitis.	2

ADMITTED TO SOUTH PETHERTON HOSPITAL.

Diphtheria.	1
Scarlet Fever.	7
Puerperal Pyrexia.	1
Poliomyelitis.	1

ADMITTED TO YEOVIL AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

Puerperal Pyrexia.	6
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TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 30 cases of respiratory and 4 of non-respiratory tuberculosis notified during the year.

The number of respiratory cases notified is 13 in excess of notifications in 1942.

The number of non-respiratory cases is 2 less than 1942.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Infants.

Primary Visits..... 350
Subsequent Visits..... 2042

Post-natal 2987

Visits to children 1 to 5 years 3407

Infant Clinic.

Visits by expectant mothers 175
Post-natal attendances. 104
Infants - first visits. 342
Ante and post-natal visits
at Clinic 279
Attendances of children
at Clinic. 5062

Dentures are provided to necessitous ante-natal cases and nursing mothers.

SCABIES.

308 cases of Scabies occurred in 135 families during 1943.

HOUSING.

Overcrowding.

There has been an increase in the number of cases, due chiefly to war conditions. The need for more housing accommodation is very urgent.

Fitness of Houses.

The general standard is much below that of the pre-war period, mainly because of neglected repairs and the difficulty of getting repairs done.

Every effort has been made to get urgent defects put right.

FOOD.

All food premises have been inspected periodically to see that a reasonable standard of cleanliness is maintained under present conditions.

Meat.

The Ministry of Food still occupy two private slaughter-houses for killing purposes and although both are kept in a reasonably satisfactory condition as regards cleanliness they are, nevertheless, very inadequate.

Comparative figures of killings for the years 1943 and 1938 are shown below :-

Animals Slaughtered.

	Bullocks.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
1943.	3083	10206	463	2539
1938.	880	2600	8900	200

Milk.

There are 13 producers in the area, of whom 3 have accredited herds and 1 a Tuberculin Tested herd.. The cowsheds and dairies are periodically inspected and are kept in a fairly satisfactory condition.

Mary E. Hague.
Medical Officer of Health.